

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Fourth Middlesex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.

Residents of Fourth Middlesex Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; less than one percent (684) of these admissions reside in the Fourth Middlesex Representative District. 2% (16) of admissions from the Fourth Middlesex Representative District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Fourth Middlesex Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 73% were male and 27% were female.
- 60% were between the ages of 30-49.
- 82% were white non-Latino, 5% were black non-Latino, 8% were Latino, and 5% were other racial categories.
- 54% were never married, 16% were married, and 30% reported not to be married now.
- 27% had less than high school education, 51% completed high school, and 22% had more than high school education.
- 43% were employed.
- 14% were homeless.
- 35% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Fourth Middlesex Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	57 %	24%	8%	4%	2%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2							
Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2003							
Fourth Middlesex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	373	324	99	71	35	29	22
FY '96	372	316	117	84	65	37	34
FY '97	520	442	177	111	91	81	53
FY '98	455	380	140	75	41	68	51
FY '99	557	467	161	111	73	118	91
FY '00	551	430	160	105	52	166	120
FY '01	607	465	169	122	65	176	130
FY '02	771	607	200	143	91	202	149
FY '03	684	510	170	117	68	184	152